

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A composite laminate comprising:

a coextruded cast film layer, wherein said cast film layer comprises at least three layers having different constituent parts, wherein at least two layers of said cast film are ~~[[an]] outer layer layers, said outer layer layers comprising~~ consisting of a polypropylene resin selected from the group consisting of polypropylene homopolymers, and polypropylene copolymers, ~~and blends of polypropylene with other polymers;~~ and wherein at least one layer of said cast film layer is a barrier layer sufficient to prevent blood, viruses and bacteria from passing through the cast film layer, said barrier layer ~~being consisting of~~ a member selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene and a blend of low density polyethylene and a linear low density polyethylene; and

at least two nonwoven substrate layers adhesively laminated to said outer layers, said composite laminate being characterized by its high wet peel strength, improved barrier properties and its being ethylene oxide sterilizable, the high wet peel strength not being diminished but enhanced on aging of the composite laminate.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Original) The composite laminate according to claim 12, wherein said cast film layer has a basis weight in the range of 5 to 50 gsm.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Original) The composite laminate of claim 12, wherein said nonwoven substrate layer comprises a spunbond polypropylene having a basis weight in the range of 10 to 100 gsm.

19. (Currently amended) The composite laminate of claim 12 43, wherein said nonwoven substrate layer comprises a fabric having a basis weight in the range of 10 to 100 gsm and wherein said fabric is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, polyester and bicomponent polyethylene/polyester fibers.

20. (Original) The composite laminate of claim 12, wherein said nonwoven substrate layer is laminated to said outer layer using an adhesive having a dry basis weight in the range of 1 to 10 gsm.

21. (Currently Amended) A composite laminate comprising:
a coextruded cast film layer, wherein said cast film layer comprises at least three layers, wherein at least two layers of said cast film are outer layers and have different constituent parts than the third layer, said outer layers ~~consisting of~~ comprising a polypropylene resin selected from the group consisting of polypropylene homopolymers; ~~and polypropylene copolymers, and blends of polypropylene and other polymers;~~ and wherein at least one layer of said cast film is a barrier layer sufficient to prevent blood, viruses, and bacteria from passing through the cast film layer, said barrier layer ~~being~~ consisting of a member selected from the group consisting of low density polyethylene and a blend of low density polyethylene and a linear low density polyethylene; and
at least two nonwoven substrate layers, ~~each of which is~~ adhesively laminated to one of said outer layers, wherein said nonwoven substrate layer comprises a fabric having a basis weight in the range of 10 to 100 gsm and wherein said fabric is selected from the

group consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, polyester and bicomponent polyethylene/polyester fibers,

said composite laminate being characterized by its high wet peel strength, improved barrier properties and its being ethylene oxide sterilizable, the high wet peel strength not being diminished but enhanced on aging of the composite laminate.

22. (Original) The composite laminate according to claim 21, wherein said cast film layer has three layers, a basis weight in the range of 5 to 50 gsm and wherein the combined weight of said two outer layers lies in the range of 3% to 90% of the total film weight.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25-32. (Canceled)

33. (New) A composite laminate comprising:

a coextruded cast film layer, wherein said cast film layer comprises at least three layers having different constituent parts, wherein at least two layers of said cast film are outer layers, said outer layers consisting of a member selected from the group consisting of polypropylene and blends of polyethylene and polypropylene, and wherein at least one layer of said cast film is a barrier layer sufficient to prevent blood, viruses and bacteria from passing through the cast film layer, said barrier layer consisting of linear low density polyethylene; and

at least two nonwoven substrate layers adhesively laminated to said outer layers,

said composite laminate being characterized by its high wet peel strength, improved barrier properties and its being ethylene oxide sterilizable, the high wet peel strength not being diminished but enhanced on aging of the composite laminate.

34. (New) A composite laminate comprising:

a coextruded cast film layer, wherein said cast film layer comprises at least three layers having different constituent parts, wherein at least two layers of said cast film are outer layers, said outer layers consisting of a member selected from the group consisting of polypropylene and blends of polyethylene and polypropylene, and wherein at least one layer of said cast film is a barrier layer sufficient to prevent blood, viruses and bacteria from passing through the cast film layer, said barrier layer consisting of a blend of 30% linear low density polyethylene and 70% low density polyethylene; and

at least two nonwoven substrate layers adhesively laminated to said outer layers, said composite laminate being characterized by its high wet peel strength, improved barrier properties and its being ethylene oxide sterilizable, the high wet peel strength not being diminished but enhanced on aging of the composite laminate.